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The Axe And The Throne (Bounds Of Redemption Book 1)

M. D. IREMAN



Synopsis

"This book will offend, frustrate, sadden, and shock you, and then it will reward you. ...An absolute killer that everyone needs in their collection." -Chris of BestEpicFantasy.comIt is a fool's errand and Tallos knows it, but against his own better judgment and the pleading of his wife, Tallos has committed himself to a voyage north. His lifelong friend's eldest sons are said to have been taken by Northmen, a raiding people ill-reputed for their savagery. The boys are already dead, Tallos knows, and in that dark place of grim reasoning he wishes only to find their corpses quickly so he can fulfill his promise and return to his wife. Instead, he finds something far worse.

Bounds of Redemption Series
Book 1: The Axe and the Throne
Book 2: Tides of the Realm
Book 3: Title Pending

"I've read this book twice now, and I have to say, the second read was eye opening. It is brilliant. There is so much depth, both in the characters and in the plot, full of hidden gems and woven with mastery, that it begins to get into A Song of Ice and Fire territory. Yet whereas the later books in Martin's series took me weeks to finish, I blitzed through The Axe and the Throne so quickly on my first read that I did not fully appreciate it." -Goodreads Reviewer, Goblindoper | See full review on Goodreads.

"The violence and brutality is vivid. The characters are skillfully developed and each one is flawed in some way that makes them more real and believable. The plot line develops slowly and unpredictably, which I appreciate. I have no idea what lays in store in future chapters. There were instances where I didn't want to continue reading for fear of what my be happening to favored characters...I really enjoyed this book and can't wait for the next one to be published!" - Reviewer, Craig Ramage | See full review below.

"Not only does every character have an amazing amount of depth, but there seems to be a genuine surprise around every corner. I recommend this to anybody who is into fantasy, and can't wait for the second book!" - Reviewer, Thorn | See full review below.

Book Information

File Size: 2071 KB

Print Length: 493 pages

Simultaneous Device Usage: Unlimited

Publisher: JayHenge Publishing; 27 edition (October 15, 2014)

Publication Date: October 15, 2014

Sold by: Digital Services LLC

Language: English

ASIN: B00OKZIEGI

Text-to-Speech: Enabled

X-Ray: Not Enabled

Word Wise: Enabled

Lending: Enabled

Screen Reader: Supported

Enhanced Typesetting: Enabled

Best Sellers Rank: #22,109 Paid in Kindle Store (See Top 100 Paid in Kindle Store) #34 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Norse & Viking #35 in Books > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Myths & Legends > Norse & Viking #188 in Kindle Store > Kindle eBooks > Science Fiction & Fantasy > Fantasy > Historical

Customer Reviews

This is absolute Grimdark Greatness! MD Ireman is a force to be reckoned with. If you love epic fantasy, with plenty of world building, numerous character POVs, viking/barbarian peoples, complex story lines, intricate plotting, then this book is for you! Tor books could only be so lucky to be publishing MD Ireman's epic novel. But in today's publishing market, Ireman may be better off on his own without any constraints. Fans of Abercrombie, Scull, Erikson, Barclay, Lawrence, Martin, etc. with devour this book. I actually read it in 2 days, because it was impossible to stop. You simply are absorbed into each character's storyline, and beg to know how they will all be connected, in Ireman's complex and careful plotting. You owe to yourself to buy this book. And the audio version read by Matt Cowlrick is absolutely astounding!

Good reading! Well written and interesting plot. I disliked some chapters, but I guess it was written to produce revulsion. Too slow pace sometimes, nevertheless I will read the second book.

I don't normally review much on here but had to put my two cents in on this book. Great dark fantasy. I'm not an avid reader so I really need a good story to get me roped in and this book delivers on every level. The characters are well developed and I can't wait to see where the story goes next. It looks to be part of a trilogy. Once I got past the first 50-75 pages it became really difficult to put the book down and that rarely happens with me. One of the few books I have that I plan to re-read so I can absorb any character nuances I might have missed. I know some reviews said this book was difficult to follow. I did not find that to be the case at all. The book does jump to a different POV for each chapter but the edition I have includes a little sketch and name of the

character at the start of each chapter so there is no guess work. It also includes a little note if it's a flashback (ex. "A few days earlier" or "some years ago"). Its possible a second edition is out now that includes these as I have seen two different covers for the book. I have the version shown here that includes the Nordic warrior on the front. Again, can't recommend this enough. So many great twists and turns. The second book can't come out soon enough!

This appears to be the First book in the series, and perhaps the writers first. All I can say is personally I loved it, the world is woven carefully and the character's are great. It took me a little getting used to such short chapters and back and fourth on each person but by the end I was down with it. It is in the lines of GRR and Joe Abercrombie, style etc.. Well done M.D Ireman. Cant wait for the next installment.

The author does a good job of balancing character development over sporadic leaps of the decades. I wound up enjoying the depth of character each displayed.

Just amazing. The twists and turns, the rich characters and gripping action; truly good work all around. Thank you Ireman! Can't wait for the sequel!!

I don't recall how I came across this book but it was fantastic. It starts off painting a very simple picture of the life of what appears to be remote group of people. It builds slowly to expand in all directions of different cultures coming into contact with each other. The main characters all have interesting agendas that make them very believable. I highly anticipate the next in the series.

This story is populated with lots of wonderfully rendered characters with strong motivations. While the many points-of-view remind me of The Spoonriver Anthology, they do provide greater depth of understanding and a richer experience of the events as they unfold. The plot lines are braided alongside each other, and then some of the strands merge, making it a challenge for the reader to favor any individual character. I tended to like the character with the POV of the moment. Relationships have deep connections that are strained due to complications, and these life or death complications add to the dramatic tension. There is humor, friendship, a bit of romance, wonderful fight scenes, hints of magic, lots of plot twists and turns, and some characters die while some survive. The various settings and politics/cultures affect the characters' actions. Have a snack handy as the food is described deliciously. There are grim scenes, but they are not gratuitously gory.

The descriptions of violence leave off where I would turn away were I to watch this story enacted on a movie screen. I recommend this book to older, more seasoned, fantasy readers as they would appreciate more deeply the relationship nuances and tensions because of their own life experiences. I especially appreciated the nearly error-free writing. While the book ends without definite closure to the plot lines, some on grim notes, it's obvious there's more to come. There's a great deal of groundwork laid for the next book as well as suspenseful momentum. I look forward to reading the next installment in this epic series.

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